



THE MORNING NEWS

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Obama dials for pizza, gets space station



Space shuttle Atlantis astronauts (L-R) Commander Chris Ferguson, Rex Walheim, Sandy Mangus and Pilot Doug Hurley wave during a crew news conference from the International Space Station in this image from NASA TV July 15, 2011

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Astronauts aboard the International Space Station got a very long-distance call yesterday from US President Barack Obama, who joked that he thought he was dialing out for pizza.

Hot from giving a press conference at which he pushed Republicans to reach a deal on raising the US debt ceiling, the American president took time out to chat with the 10 astronauts currently aboard the ISS. "I was just dialing out for pizza, and I didn't expect to end up in space," Obama quipped, raising a laugh from the gathered crew.

But turning serious, he told the astronauts how proud he was of them and said their work "ushers in an exciting new era to push the frontiers of space exploration and human spaceflight."

"The space program has always embodied our sense of adventure and exploration and courage," the president said.

He said he wanted to thank all the men and women of NASA for the work that has been poured into the 30-year space shuttle program which will end when Atlantis and its crew of four return to Earth

next week.

"You helped our country lead the space age, you continue to inspire us."

Atlantis shuttle commander Chris Ferguson replied that: "We're honored to represent everybody on the planet Earth."

"Godspeed as you guys return home next week," Obama wished them.

Earlier the four crew members from the Atlantis had repaired one of the space shuttle's four main computers after it crashed triggering an overnight alarm.

The glitch, which startled the astronauts out of bed, threatened to dampen the last-ever mission of the space shuttle program.

But the crew were able to recover use of the computer and NASA believes it will be configured normally for the shuttle's last return to Earth on July 21.

Despite what the NASA official described as "little hiccups along the way," including an earlier problem with general purpose computer 3, the Atlantis mission is on track, with some 70 percent of equipment and supply transfer to the space station complete.

Interesting course on the History of Aruba presented by University of Aruba



Photos above show participants of the Oral History course – "Rescue Expedition."

The Center of Investigation and Development of the University of Aruba, together with the division of Investigation and Documentation of the Department of Culture, recently organized and conducted a special course on Oral History. There were 21 participants from various government departments who volunteered to prepare themselves to become investigators of the Oral History of Aruba. This investigation will collect and register information obtained through the medium of interviews of our senior citizens.

There are four topics that will be researched. The topics

are: Family History, History of the Barrio, Pre-Industrial Aruba and the Customs of the end of the year.

In order to conduct this investigation, those who will be doing the interviewing will need careful training, and adequate preparation. As of the start of the year, work groups began collecting information and orientating themselves on their specific topic.

This year the work groups began searching for literature on the subject, assessing information which already exists on the topics at our National Library, the National Archives and from other departments and insti-

tutions.

One of the groups' main concerns now is to decide who are the key persons to approach from whom they will get the information they need.

They have prepared a list of questions for their interviews. They want answers from our senior citizens for these question that they believe our seniors would have.

In an effort to support this project, the University of Aruba has organized a number of lectures and courses to complement the investigative work of the groups.

Continued on page 5

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

First US troops leave Afghanistan as drawdown begins



WASHINGTON (AFP)-The first American soldiers of about 10,000 due to leave Afghanistan this year have flown home, military officials said Friday, kicking off a gradual drawdown due to be completed in 2014.

US President Barack Obama in June announced that 33,000 American troops would leave Afghanistan by the end of next summer, leaving behind 65,000 and effec-

tively ending a military surge ordered into the country late 2009.

Around 650 US army troops deployed north-west of the capital in the province of Parwan flew out on Wednesday and will not be re-

placed by an incoming unit, the US military confirmed Friday.

US officers have said that a total of about 800 soldiers in two Army units will depart this month.

The speed of the drawdown has been heavily criticised in Washington -- liberals wanted more, Republican hawks complained it

was too fast and top Pentagon officials felt snubbed for having much of their advice overruled.

The troops who left Wednesday were from the Iowa National Guard's 1st Squadron, 113rd Cavalry Regiment and their duties will be taken on by others already in the country.

US officers have said that with no major troop withdrawals until later in the year, US commanders will have virtually the entire surge force on the ground through the summer fighting season.

There are currently around 150,000 US-led foreign troops on the ground in Afghanistan, including about 99,000 Americans.

Obama under fire for not meeting Dalai Lama

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US lawmakers and human rights activists on Friday sharply criticized President Barack Obama for not meeting the Dalai Lama, accusing him of bowing to Chinese pressure to shun the Tibetan leader.

Obama is engrossed in talks on the US debt and the Dalai Lama closes his nearly two-week trip, in which he led thousands in a Buddhist ritual, today

"It's deeply disappointing that the president caved to Chinese pressure not to meet with the Dalai Lama," said Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

US lawmakers including House Speaker John Boehner, Ros-Lehtinen and top House Democrat Nancy Pelosi welcomed the Dalai Lama to the Capitol on July 7, voicing sol-

idarity with the spiritual leader who has lived in exile since 1959.

Admiral Mike Mullen visited China this week, the first trip by the top US military officer in four years. US policy-makers are eager to step up defense dialogue, fearing miscalculations as China rapidly expands its military.

The Dalai Lama, who enjoys wide popularity in the United States, says he is peacefully seeking rights for Tibetans and accepts Chinese rule. Beijing insists that he is a "splittist" bent on dividing China.

Sophie Richardson of Human Rights Watch questioned why Obama would shy away from the Dalai Lama after Beijing last month defiantly rolled out the red carpet for Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, who is wanted on genocide charges.

Obama did not meet the Dalai Lama during the monk's 2009 visit, upsetting human rights campaigners. He received the Dalai Lama at the White House last year, albeit away from cameras in a private residence.

The United States has also stayed cautious on another point of friction with China -- arms sales to Taiwan, which Beijing considers a territory. The administration has yet to move on Taiwan's requests to buy F-16 fighter jets despite appeals for action from nearly half of the US Senate.

Chile miners sue government for 69-day ordeal



file photo of some of the miners

SANTIAGO, Chile (AFP) - Some 31 miners who endured 69 days trapped underground when a northern Chile mine collapsed are suing the government for negligence saying there was lack of security, one of them said Friday.

"We want what we went through at the bottom of that mine to be recognized. We are here to say that the 31 of us

wish that all our suffering, and the suffering of our families, is recognized," miner Luis Urzua told reporters.

A total of 33 miners were trapped underground from August 5 to October 13 2010 after a cave-in at the San Jose gold and copper mine in northern Chile.

After 69 days and a spectacular rescue operation with the world watching, they were hauled out safely from 700 meters (2,290 feet) below ground.

Only 31 of the group have joined the lawsuit against the Chilean government, and a lawyer filed the suit Friday requesting \$540,000 in compensation for each of the miners.

The miners allege that the National Geology and Mines Bureau had failed to carry out proper inspections of the

mine's security and working conditions.

One of the plaintiffs, miner Claudio Yanez, said the mine had had accidents in the past and at one time had been closed.

"Everyone knows that in 2005 and 2007 there were two deaths in this mine, and that since then it had always been a dangerous mine," Yanez told CNN Chile.

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Ingrid Does
Manager

Rosalinda Maduro
Chandette Richardson
Editors

Marline v. d. Linden
Asst. to the editors

Rosalie Klein
Reporter / Photographer

Yvonne Kromhout
P.R., Sales & Marketing

Yanis Garcia
Paula Iglesias
Sales

News Provider:
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Caya G. F. Betico Croes 111
Tel: 588-9517 - Fax: 588-9518

E-mail:
themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com

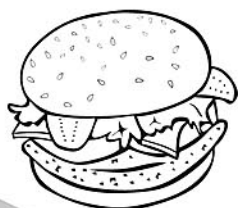
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Without the protection of Heartcare Chewables, pets can get the disease of heart worms which can be fatal. The cost of administering the once a month Heartcare Chewable is considerably less than the treatment should they be infected with the possibility of not surviving the treatment.



In Aruba our animals easily become infected because of the high infestation of mosquitoes that our climate produces. For this reason it is crucial that we prevent the disease by giving our pets, that we love so dearly, the Heartcare Chewables. Especially during this very warm season, the summer months, the amount of flies and mosquitoes seem to multiply manifold with the impending consequence that our pets could be infected with the heart worm disease.

Heartcare Chewables can prevent the disease 100% and is available for dogs of all

sizes, breeds and ages at your favorite vet's office. In view of the celebration of Animal Care Clinic's first anniversary, they have teamed up with Oduber Agencies NV to offer the Aruban community a super special treat! ...the first 300 dogs to participate will receive a 3-months supply of Heartcare Chewables.

This is a special treat for your dog's health and at the same time a great treat for your wallet. Animal Care Clinic expects a massive response to this special offer from those families who truly love their dog ...so don't get left out!

Contract signing for students who further their studies with a government loan

ORANJESTAD – All students who received a confirmation letter for a government loan and submitted the following documents: 1) Acceptance letter of the Government loan; 2) copy of diploma/grade list; 3) acceptance letter of the institute where the student will further his/her study; and 4) a bank account number, are requested to pass at the Department of Education, Study and Guidance Facility situated at the Caya G.F. 'Betico' Croes 38, to sign their contract on

the following days:

**Wednesday, July 20,
2011-07-15**

08.00 – 10.00: University of Aruba;

10.00 – 12.00: IPA/Curaçao;

13.00 – 15.00: EPI;

15.30 – 16.30: USA/Costa Rica/Colombia.

All signatories must come with an Afls. 4 receipt stamps and Afls.1 registration fee.

Dutch broadcasting tower collapses in flames

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- The top section of the Hoogersmilde radio and TV broadcasting tower in the east of the Netherlands has collapsed following a fire. Before the metal section collapsed due to overheating, the 300m tower was one of the tallest in the Netherlands.

No one was injured. Fire fighters called in to put out the rapidly spreading fire had withdrawn from the tower shortly before the top section gave way. Police had already

cordoned off the area around the burning tower.

The cause of the fire that raged around 100 meters above ground is unknown. The power supply to the tower was cut off soon after the blaze broke out, disrupting radio and TV broadcasts to parts of the Netherlands.

Fire also broke out at a broadcasting tower in the central town of Lopik last night. As yet no connection between the two blazes has been established.

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Cast and Producers of “Claus” provide a musical preview



Claus and Beatrix on their wedding day



During the Dutch performance

Noted Producer/Director John Leerdam has brought his original production, “Claus!” based on the life of the late Prince Consort to HRM Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, to Aruba, after accolades for its single performance in Holland before the Royal Dutch Family.

“Claus!” is a theatrical reading with musical accom-

paniment, and composer/arranger Harto Soemodihardjo led the cast in lively renditions of some numbers from the score in the lobby of Aruba’s Cas di Cultura; an enticing preview of the upcoming production. The late Prince Consort is fondly remembered by the populace as he was particularly known for his empathy for

the indigenous people of those distant nations under Dutch influence, past and present. He was noted for his “strong motivation to contribute to public causes, especially third world development, his sincere modesty and candor and his approachability by all levels of society.”

John Leerdam is a former Dutch parliamentarian and



Foundation President Noraly Beyer

founder of the Stichting Julius Leeft, which stages productions spotlighting social issues and historic subjects. His practice is to assemble a diverse and sometime startling cast comprised of famous performers and political figures, such as Mark Rutte, former Dutch Prime Minister. Famed international singing artist Izaline Calister will be on stage at the Cas di Cultura for this presentation, along with Aruba’s Minister Plenipotentiary to Holland, Edwin Abath, a noted singer and composer; Omayra Leeftang, former Curacao Minister of Education, is also participating. The international cast includes Kenneth Herdigein, Denise Jannah, Gerda Oats Tong, Maartje van Weegen, Giovanca, Bert Koenders, Paulette Smith as Maxima, Bo Bojoh, and Thom Hoffman in the part of Claus. Noraly Beyer, President of the Julius Leeft Foundation is also on island for the presentation.

Originally staged in 2009, “Claus!” is being offered to the Aruban public through the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, and the support of several sponsors, among them: Renaissance Resort, KLM, UNOCA and INSEL Air and the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds. Tickets are 50 Aruban florins for the official premier on Monday, July 18; curtain time is 7:30 PM. There will be two special benefit performances the following eve-



Producer Director John Leerdam

nings, the proceeds of which will fund dance and musical programs for island youth without the financial means to develop their talents. Tickets for the charity performances are 40 Aruban florins, (\$22). Tickets are available at the Cas di Cultura, Van Dorp stationery stores, Antraco Office Supply and Bookstore and at the Skol di Arte in San Nicolas.

The “Claus!” company will then perform at the World Trade Center Auditorium in Curacao on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 22, 23, and 24, with a similar benefit concert on Tuesday, July 26 at the Landhuis Brakker Put Mei Mei.

by Rosalie Klein



Regional Superstar Izaline Calister is part of the cast



Jonathan Vieira, John Leerdam, Vicki Arens, Edwin Abath



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Interesting course on history...

Continued from page 1

History professor, Chando Pietersz offered a six-lesson course much to the satisfaction of all the participants. The topics covered in Pietersz' course were:

1. Aruba during the Colonial Period, 2. Aruba at the start of the 19th century, 3. The history of migration since the beginning of the 19th century, 4. The start of the 20th century with the arrival of Lago on Aruba, 5. The second half of the 20th century, 6. Who is Aruban in 1900, 1930, 1960, 1990 and 2010?

In view of the exceptional interest from the community in this course, the University is contemplating repeating it during the upcoming new school year.

During the rest of this year the community can expect to receive more information concerning the results of the investigation of the Oral History of Aruba. For any further information regarding the course offered by Chando Pietersz, feel free to contact the University of Aruba at Tel. 588-9946, or send an email to crd@ua.aw.

The accompanying photos show participants of the Oral History course – "Rescue Expedition."

Successful closing of Summer Courses by Youth Parliament at Paseo Herencia



Recently, Paseo Herencia and the Aruba Youth Parliament celebrated the closure of their "Summer Courses" which

were a resounding success. Tourists and locals alike enjoyed an entertaining evening. The event began with a debate among our youth regarding some very interesting topics including the impact of the news media on our youth and the use of cellular phones in classrooms. Winner of the debate was Adithya Gupta of the International School of Aruba.

"Summer Courses" continued with a speech Aruba's Minister of Economic and Social Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar.

She expressed her satisfaction in the performance by the Youth Parliament to set positive role models for Aruban

teenagers.

Paseo Herencia Marketing, PR and Events Manager Candy Rasmijn congratulated the Youth Parliament while also giving praise and recognition to our Little League Baseball team, Senior Division, who just recently returned from Mexico having won the Senior League Baseball Latin Championships title. The players each received part of their uniforms and a present from Athlete's Foot, a new shop that will soon open its doors at Paseo Herencia.

The night ended with the official launching of the Youth Parliament's website and en-



tertainment by "East Side rappers," "Step by Step," dancers and "Transformerz."

Paseo Herencia supports all projects that impress our community in a positive way, either in art, culture, sports or entertainment; If seeking for a

relaxing moment with friends and family as well as an authentic island experience, enjoy one of the culturally enlightening events that are regularly scheduled at Paseo Herencia in Palm Beach.

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**Sci-Tech****Coming soon from the dentist: printing new teeth with a 3D printer**

3D printing is quickly becoming a viable manufacturing process, with the printers themselves getting smaller and even more innovative. You can even print yourself a working car. Now, researchers in Iran are working on a technique that could revolutionize prosthetic dentistry, allowing dentists to print dental implants or crowns in minutes, rather than waiting the days or weeks it currently takes to take molds, make a cast, and create implants the old-fashioned way.

The technique, called rapid prototyping, combines medical imaging with computer-aided design to build



an exact, perfect-fit replica of the tooth or bone out of biocompatible composite material. A laser cures powdered or liquid polymer into complex shapes previously impossible, or at least extremely difficult, to produce. This technique can create solid or porous shapes, and easily creates objects with overhangs, sharp corners, and undercuts.

The research team also pointed out that the medical imaging technology that works best for this type of application, called cone-beam computed tomography or CBCT, is also lower in both cost and patient exposure to radiation. The technique is still probably a few years out from commercial development, however, so don't put off your next visit to the dentist while we wait!

Tech Buzz...

Windows 8 isn't even out yet and talk is already spinning off in the direction of Windows 9, which apparently won't be called that. The next next-gen operating system will reportedly be built to function across all of Microsoft's platforms, including PCs, tablets, phones and, notably, whatever the next Xbox turns out to be. This is Next reports via an unnamed source.

The next OS will supposedly launch sometime in the next four years, which lines up with the expected 2014-or-later arrival of the next-generation Xbox. The move would also vibe with comments made at Microsoft's Worldwide Partner Conference earlier this week, where Windows Phone division president Andy Lees said that the company is looking to create "a single ecosystem" for its products. The aim, as he put it, is to provide "coherence and consistency [between platforms]... particularly with Xbox."

Reports that Apple would release the new version of its ultra-thin MacBook Air laptop this week are wrong, says John Paczkowski at All Things Digital. The new MacBook Air model is actually coming next week, according to "several sources" who spoke with Paczkowski.

Rumors about the imminent release of new MacBook Airs have been floating around for some time. At the end of June, Best Buy halted all shipments of MacBook Air orders, listing the product as "not available." This, of course, set the rumor mill into motion. Then, last week, it was reported that an update would come on July 13. But, two days later, and still no new MacBook Air.

In addition to release date murmurs, it was also rumored that the new MacBook Air line will receive some major spec upgrades. AppleInsider reports that the 11.6-inch and 13.3-inch models will now come with 4GB of RAM, up from the 2GB offered in the last iteration.

That information comes via Concord Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo, who also reports that Apple will do away with the 64GB SSD storage option, and replace it with a minimum size of 128GB. A 256GB option will also be available, Kuo says.

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It's tough at the top for alpha males: study

If you're feeling envious of your boss's paycheck, a study out this past week shows that success comes with high stress, possibly as much as faced by those who have to struggle to find a bite to eat.

The results of nine years of research on wild baboons, published in the journal Science, suggest that despite perks like easy access to mates and food, top-ranking males experience similar stress levels as their lowest-ranking counterparts.

Those in the middle showed lower stress than either the top or bottom ranking males, according to measurements of testosterone and a stress hormone known as glucocorticoid.

"Alpha males exhibited



much higher stress hormone levels than second-ranking (beta) males, suggesting that being at the top may be more costly than previously thought," said the study led

by researchers at Princeton University.

Samples were taken from the feces of a wild male baboon population in Amboseli, Kenya.

Alpha baboons spent lots of energy fighting to stay on top and trying to mate with as many females as possible, while the low-ranking males expended lots of effort searching for food.

Meanwhile, there may be perks for not reaching quite so high.

The second-rate beta males received about the same amount of attention -- in the form of grooming -- from females, but did "slightly better than predicted" at reaching their "full reproductive potential," the study said.

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Health & Living

Medical breakthroughs set to buoy AIDS council of war

ROME (AFP) -The biggest medical forum on AIDS kicks off on Sunday to a buzz of excitement about potential strategies for curbing a pandemic that has now claimed 30 million lives in its three-decade history.

A four-day conference in Rome will mull dramatic evidence that drugs designed to treat patients with HIV can be used to shield uninfected people from the AIDS virus.

This could be the best news in 15 years, when antiretroviral drugs started to transform the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) from a death sentence to a manageable disease.

It opens up dazzling options for rolling back a pandemic for which there is still no cure or vaccine, say some experts.

"Over the past 18 months, there has been a string of good results from trials, and this has generated a fair bit of optimism," Jean-Francois Del-fraissy, director of the French Agency for AIDS Research (ANRS), told AFP.

"Until recently, no one had found a medical way to prevent HIV -- all there was, essentially, was the condom and the message of safe sex."

The conference will gather

thousands of specialists, ranging from virologists to pharmacologists and disease trackers

It is staged once every two years by the International AIDS Society (IAS), which also organises the International AIDS Conference, a bigger event that touches on the pandemic's many social dimensions.

Here are the some main causes for all the excitement:

-- a trial conducted among "sero-discordant" heterosexual couples in Africa, meaning couples in which one partner had been tested positive HIV while the other was uninfected.

The risk of HIV infection fell by a whopping 96 percent when the infected partner

started early use of daily anti-retrovirals.

-- a trial conducted among sero-discordant heterosexual couples in Kenya and Uganda which took a quite different tack. It asked the uninfected partner to take the daily anti-HIV pill.

The risk of infection fell 62 to 73 percent compared with couples where the uninfected partner took a placebo.

Some campaigners say "treatment as prevention" -- treating infected people swiftly so that they do not infect others -- should now spearhead the war on AIDS.

In 2009, more than 33 million people were living with HIV and 2.6 million people became newly infected, according to UNAIDS.



MANKAYANE : Swaziland's King Mswati III delivers a speech during the launch of a campaign calling for his male subjects to get circumcised to curb the spread of HIV infection, on July 15, 2011, in Mankayane. Swaziland has the world's highest HIV rate of infection; one in four adults are affected in the kingdom of nearly 1.2 million. The US-funded circumcision campaign aims to snip 80 percent of Swazi males aged 14 to 49 within a year, with the hope of averting 90,000 new infections and save the health system millions of dollars over the next decade. Studies have found men without a foreskin are 60 percent less likely to get HIV, the virus that can lead to AIDS. The US government is spending \$30 million (21 million euros) on the campaign -- nearly \$30 per inhabitant of the tiny kingdom.

AFP PHOTO

STD rate twice as high in older women, US study finds



WASHINGTON (AFP) - A sexually transmitted disease known as Trichomonas vaginalis is twice as common as previously thought, and is particularly prevalent in women over 40, US doctors said this week.

Using new genetic assay technologies for testing, the research led by Johns Hopkins University found that the overall infection rate among US women was 8.7 percent, compared to previous findings of about four percent.

Analyzing data from 7,593 American women between the ages of 18 and 89, women 50 and older showed

the highest trichomonas infection rate at 13 percent.

Women in their 40s showed an 11 percent infection rate, said the study which spanned 28 states and "is believed to be the largest and most in-depth analysis of the STD ever performed in the United States," the study authors said.

Since the parasite often causes no symptoms in women but can lead to severe health problems, senior study investigator Charlotte Gaydos of Johns Hopkins in Maryland said she is urging all women over 40 to get tested.

The parasitic disease often causes no symptoms, but can result in painful urination or genital itching and discharge. Trichomonas infection can also make it easier for HIV to be transmitted, and can cause pelvic inflammatory disease and pregnancy and birth complications.



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PIZZA: Segafredo (Tomato Sauce, Mozzarella, Ham, Mushroom, Olives, Pepper, Aubergine, Parmesan Cheese) Antonella (Classic Pizza) (Tomato sauce, Mozzarella, Basilicum)

INSALATE: Capresa stile Italiano (Mozzarella, Tomato, Basil, Rucola)
 Insalata Di Mare (Mixed Seafood)

ANTIPASTI: Bruschetta al Pomodoro
 Carpaccio Zucchini: (Zucchini, Capers, Red Onions, Lemon Juice, Mint, Basil)

PASTA: Linguini Frutti Di Mare (Cherry Tomatoes, Mixed Seafood, Rucola)
 Ravioli Della Regina (Spinach, Ricotta Cheese, White Sauce)



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Experts: Eat Invasive Species To Control Population

America get ready: a new delicacy may be coming to a table near you. That's right, environmentalists, consumer groups and scientists are seriously working up new solutions to control the ever rising populations of invasive aquatic species in America, and want people to step up their eating game and devour away the infestation.

Among the top offenders is the lionfish. With its dark red and black stripes, spotted fins and venomous black spikes, it seems like it wouldn't make a nice meal choice. But according to experts, lionfish fritters may be on the table soon.

The invasive lionfish is devastating reef fish populations

along the Florida coast and into the Caribbean. The novel idea to turn this predator into a dinner menu item aims to take pressure off depleted ocean fish stocks.

"Instead of eating something like shark fin soup, why not eat a species that is causing harm, and with your meal make a positive contribution?" Philip Kramer, director of the Caribbean program for the Nature Conservancy, said.

Invasive species have become an incommensurable problem in the US, with ever-increasing populations of Asian Carp overrunning the Mississippi River and European Green Crab mobbing the coastlines. These invasive species

have few natural predators and have thrived in our waters, eating native animals and out-competing them for food and habitat.

Experts are hoping to lure seafood eaters away from menu items such as grouper that is over-fished and the threatened Chilean sea bass, replacing them with Asian carp and lionfish.

Wenonah Hauter, the executive director of Food and Water Watch recommends that diners eat invasive species as a "safer, more sustainable" alternative to other endangered aquatic species, and to encourage fishermen and markets to provide them.

"What these species need now is a better — sexier — profile, and more cooks who



know how to use them," she said. Hauter has enlisted celebrity chefs to promote invasive dining.

Human consumption of the invasive species is only part of the answer. Scientists say a comprehensive plan to restore native fish populations to healthy levels must include erecting physical barriers to prevent further dissemination of invasive species and also restoring native fish predators to depleted habitats.

Kramer is concerned that marketing lionfish as a food

choice might increase the number of traps on reefs, which could trap other fish as well. He said the spear fishing was the most sustainable way to catch lionfish, which are reef dwellers.

To increase the culinary demand for invasive species, Food and Water Watch has teamed up with the James Beard Foundation and Kerry Heffernan, to devise recipes using the invaders. At a recent taste test, Asian carp ceviche and braised lionfish filet were on the menu.

Surprisingly, lionfish tasted great. The group had to hire fishermen to catch the pests. Heffernan said he would consider putting them on his menu.

Lionfish can carry ciguatera toxin, which causes vomiting and neurological problems, so they cannot be fished in waters where the microbe that produces the toxin is found. The fish's venomous spines must also be removed before sale.

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Victim of the great garbage patch: Turtle is just one of thousands left deformed or dead by Pacific Ocean plastic

Its shell constricted by a plastic band, this turtle is just one victim of the great garbage patch.

But while the reptile may be deformed, it is more fortunate than many of the animals that come into contact with the huge sea of waste in the northern Pacific Ocean.

Greenpeace workers have found countless dead seabirds, their stomachs laced with plastic items such as bottle tops, lighters and balloons.

It is most likely that the turtle's damaged shell was caused when as a youngster he crawled through a plastic band that it could then not remove.

Sea turtles are prone for mistaking plastic items, particularly bags, for jellyfish, one



of their favourite foods. The plastic can block the digestive tract, leading to a slow and agonising death from starvation.

Earlier this year, another operation in Hawaii discovered a dead turtle who had

more than 1,000 items of plastic in his stomach.

Photo above shows a turtle with its shell constricted by a piece of plastic waste found in the great garbage patch - a part of the northern Pacific Ocean

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Loyal Aruba visitors honored



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Aruba Happy Rentals Receives a 'Top Rental Award' by Flipkey and is 'Rated Excellent' by Tripadvisor!

Based on exceptional guest reviews and an impressive listing, Aruba Happy Rentals has been recognized with a "Top Rental Property" award by FlipKey.

This exclusive honor was awarded to a very select group of vacation rental owners based on reviews from guests. Additionally, Aruba Happy Rentals has also qualified for a "Rated Excellent" badge from Tripadvisor!

Aruba Happy Rentals was founded in 2005 by Albert Mostert. Meanwhile Aruba Happy Rentals is a great team with professionals to make sure guests from all over the world enjoy a wonderful vacation in Aruba and makes sure that each homeowner has a piece of mind while Aruba Happy Rentals takes care of their beautiful apartments, villa's and houses on



the island.

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Products and services offered by the company are: Property Management, Vacation Villa Rentals, Long Term Rentals, Real Estate, Investing Opportunities, Local Housing & Development, Construction Project Management and Guidance.

"Continuity, Quality, Reliability and Customer Service has always been our main priority.

Receiving this 'Top Rental Property' award is the result of the work of each team member in combination with the support from our homeowners and clients," says Albert Mostert, founder and owner of the company.

Aruba Happy Rentals serves all markets, however is very strong in the North American Market, the Canadian Market, South American and European Market.

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Hank Aaron's leading stat
4. Clear the blackboard
9. ___ a plea
12. Poet's "over"
13. Brunch fruit
14. One, in French
15. Where to go for a tow (abbr.)
16. Gripper on a football shoe
17. Dust cloth
18. "Crocodile ___"
20. Maintained
22. Harvest
24. Varnish-making substance
27. Soft French cheese
30. Cul-de-___
32. Go up
33. Gives permission
34. DDE's military arena
35. Hat material
36. Tarzan's pals
37. Sermon subject
38. Keats poems
39. Mr. Simpson
41. ___ about (approximately, 2 wds.)
43. Psychic's phrase (2 wds.)
45. Exempt

49. Candy in a container
51. French student
53. Funnyman Caesar
54. Singleton
55. Animate
56. Remnant
57. "___ Misérables"
58. Origins
59. Week unit

DOWN

1. Thruway
2. Boyfriend
3. Modern Persia
4. Master of ceremonies
5. Frees
6. Malt

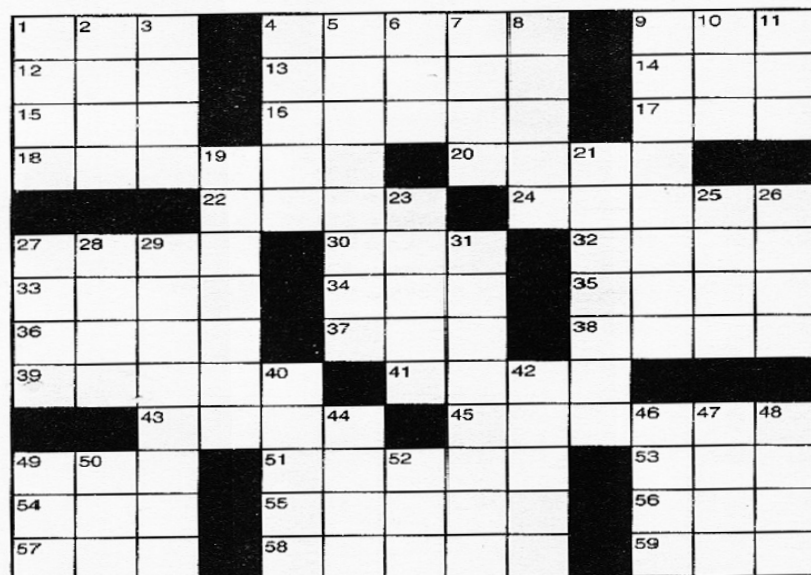
7. Washing machine option
8. Keyboard button
9. Greeted Her Majesty
10. Three ___ match (2 wds.)
11. Wooden marker
19. Items in women's closets
21. Act
23. Summer dining spot
25. Skye, e.g.
26. Court dividers
27. Unexciting
28. "___ Man"

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(1984 film)

29. Writes a bill in detail
31. Schemed
40. Lively dances
42. Indications
44. Author Wiesel
46. Preowned
47. 1492 ship
48. Nelson ___
49. Gdansk's locale (abbr.)
50. WSW's opp.
52. Adam's partner



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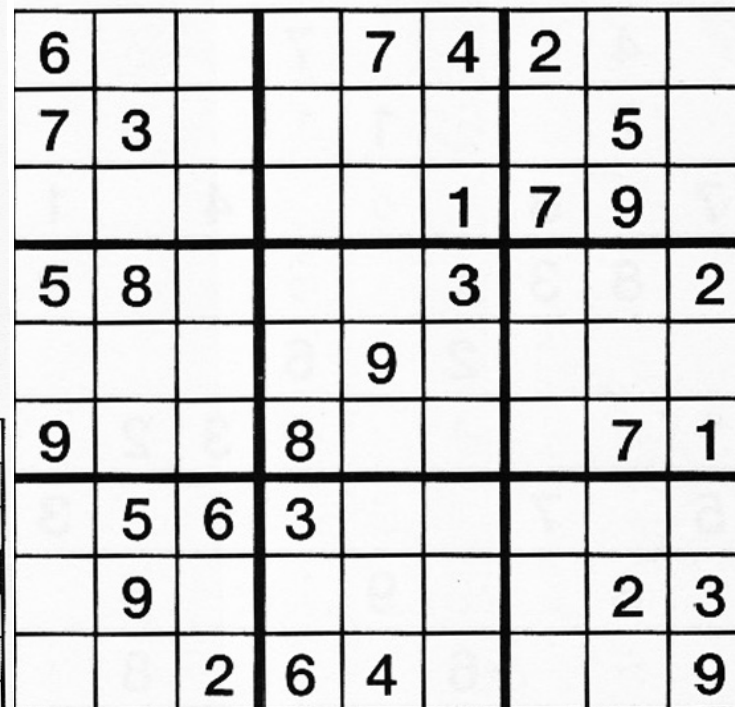
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6	1	9	8	4	9	2	7	3
3	2	9	7	1	6	8	5	4
1	4	8	6	3	5	9	2	7
2	5	7	9	8	1	6	4	3
9	8	3	2	6	7	1	9	5
7	9	6	5	1	4	2	8	3
4	6	7	1	3	9	8	2	5
5	3	1	9	8	7	6	3	4
8	3	2	4	7	6	9	1	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Obama warns US 'running out of time' for debt deal

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama pressed polarized lawmakers Friday to avert economic "Armageddon" by quickly forging an elusive deal to prevent an early August debt default with ruinous global consequences.

"We're obviously running out of time," Obama warned at the White House, as Democrats and Republicans in the House of Representatives met separately to discuss the way forward and Senate leaders worked on a last-ditch compromise.

Obama renewed his preference for a "grand bargain" slicing deep into spending, cutting entitlement programs dear to his fellow Democrats, but Republicans have flatly rejected his call for higher taxes on the rich.

The US president, sure to be judged in the 2012 elections based on his handling of the jobs-poor US economy, signaled he would not reject a last-minute compromise key lawmakers were drafting behind closed doors.

"Let's at least avert Armageddon," he said after five straight days of crisis talks at the White House failed to reach a deal on closing the yawning budget deficit while raising the US debt limit from its current \$14.3 trillion.

Economists and finance and business leaders have warned that failure to raise the US debt ceiling by August 2 could send shock waves through a world economy still reeling from the 2008 collapse.

Ratings agencies Moody's

and Standard & Poor's have warned they may downgrade Washington's sterling Triple-A debt rating, and leading US creditor China, Wall Street titan JPMorgan Chase and the Federal Reserve have also sounded the alarm.

With time running short, Obama's top Republican foes in Congress called for votes next week on their plan for severe spending cuts on the way to amending the US Constitution to require cash-strapped Washington to balance its budget.

Washington hit its debt ceiling on May 16 and has used spending and accounting adjustments, as well as higher-than-expected tax receipts, to continue operating normally, but can only do so until August 2.

Oil prices rebound from sell-off

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices rebounded in New York on Friday after the European Union released the results of closely watched bank stress tests, revealing that its banks had fared better than expected.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) light sweet crude for delivery in August, gained \$1.55 to close at \$95.56 a barrel.

The end-of-week rally made up some ground that had been lost on Thursday, when WTI dived by \$2.36.

But the release of European bank stress-test results lifted some of the tensions over Europe's economy, Melek said.

The EU's banking regulator, the European Banking Author-

ity, announced that eight banks had flunked the stress tests designed to assess their ability to withstand a worst-case economic scenario.

Eight institutions -- five Spanish banks, two Greek banks and one Austrian bank -- failed to meet the EBA's new capital requirements, it said.

Traders had been awaiting the results of the tests to gauge the impact of the eurozone's broadening debt crisis, which could potentially cut into European energy demand.

Separately, the oil market was pushed in different directions by economic data released in the United States, the world's largest consumer of oil.

European markets slip ahead of bank stress test results

PARIS, France (AFP) - European stock markets closed mostly lower in volatile trade Friday as nervous investors waited for key bank stress test results in the hope they will show some light at the end of the debt tunnel.

Dealers said that with growing fears the eurozone debt crisis could snag Italy and Spain after Greece, Ireland and Portugal, sentiment took another knock as the ratings agencies put the United States in the firing line as well.

The stand-off between President Barack Obama and his Republican opponents on agreeing a new debt ceiling is worrying but there is a political imperative for both sides to compromise and the situation is not the same as in Europe.

They said the immediate concern Friday was the European Banking Authority stress test results, announced after the close, which showed eight failures out of the 91 banks reviewed.

The EBA said the failed banks would need 2.5 billion euros in additional capital to bring them up to strength -- a small sum compared with the massive amounts needed to bolster the eurozone and stave off default for Greece.

Critics have noted that the tests, while more severe than last year's exercise, did not include the possibility of a sovereign default and so were not as tough as they should have been given Greece's immediate problems.

Eurozone debt summit July 21 in Brussels: EU president

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) - Eurozone nations will hold an extraordinary summit on July 21 in Brussels on ways to tackle the debt crisis and provide fresh aid for bailed-out Greece, EU president Herman Van Rompuy said Friday.

EU officials have been trying to fix a summit for several days.

The fact that a date has been chosen suggests they may finally have made some headway on a second bailout for Greece, which is proving highly controversial.

But a source close to the talks said Friday that there

had been progress, even if there was still work to be done.

Germany, the eurozone's economic powerhouse, wants private sector creditors to share some of the burden of a new Greek bailout.

But the European Central Bank is adamantly opposed, fearing it would trigger a potentially disastrous default.

The problems in Greece, however, have spread: Ireland and Portugal have also had to be bailed out, while Italy and Spain are seen to be at risk given the strained state of their public finances.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

C	E	O	S	T	A	R	E	B	A	A
O	W	N	H	A	D	E	S	A	B	S
P	E	T	T	I	C	O	A	T	R	B
R	E	T	C	E	D	A	R	S		
K	N	E	E	L	I	T	E	M		
R	I	D	D	E	S	I	V	C	R	S
I	N	N	S	A	L	O	N	H	A	Y
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A	S	A	N	O	T	R	E	D	A	M
C	D	S	D	U	K	E	S	F	O	R
K	A	T	S	T	O	W	S	B	B	S


Four top Dutch banks pass EU stress test: bank statements

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - Four top Dutch banks said on Friday they had passed the EU bank stress tests.

ING, Rabobank, ABN Amro and SNS, which together represent about 75 percent of the Dutch banking sector, were among 91 European banks subjected to the

tests.

Test results showed top class Tier One shareholder fund ratios in worst case scenarios at 10.8 percent for Rabobank, 9.2 percent for ABN Amro, 8.7 percent for ING and 7.0 percent for SNS, above the baseline of 5.0 percent, the banks said in separate statements.



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Parents guide to skin protection

It's important to protect your children's skin from the damaging effects of the sun. No matter what they're doing or what time of year it is, if they are outdoors, they need to be protected.

Aruba is one of the places in the world where the sun is the strongest. Located only 12.5 degrees north of the equator, the sun shines with maximum strength and penetrates the atmosphere with a maximum amount of UV rays. What most people don't know on water and sand, which means that even in the shade you need protection.

Protecting the skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see their parents protecting their skin as well.



Important recommendations:

- Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and slacks made of tightly woven fabrics that you can't see through when held up to light.
- Cover up with Hats. Choose hats that shade your child's face, neck and ears.
- Apply Sunscreen every day on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. Choose a sunscreen with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF) such as Aruba Aloe's Waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection. For babies and children under 2 years old, make sure to use a special sunscreen that gives extra protection for the sensitive skin such as "Waterproof Babies SPF 30" from Aruba Aloe. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling dry if you use a sunscreen that is not waterproof.
- Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in the car.
- Pack a bottle of sunscreen in your child's bag.
- Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.
- Play in the Shade. The sun's rays are generally strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your children are outdoors, make sure their skin is protected.
- Teach your children the shadow rule. When outside, if your shadow is shorter than you are, it means that the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense.
- Protect children younger than 6 months of age with clothing and keep them in the shade.

For more advice on how to best protect your and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website www.ArubaAloe.com

Aruba Aloe products are available at most hotels, supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.



Buster's Garage in South Beach Center: One place for the whole family

Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellowpages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."


Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships,




they regularly carry all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and residents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 a.m., weekends at 4:00 a.m.





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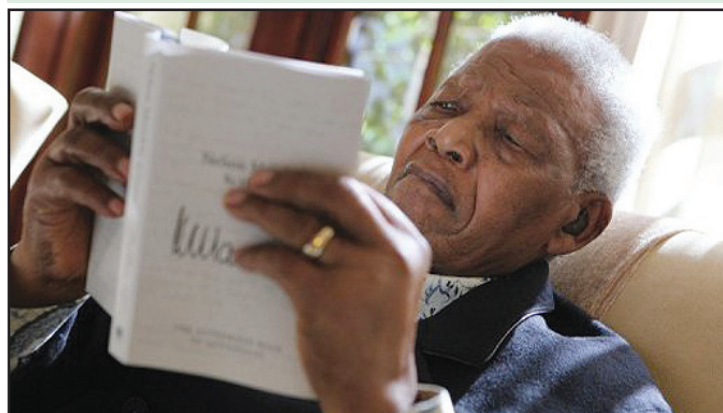
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Tapas





Call to service for Mandela's 93rd birthday



A photograph taken in June 2011 at his home in Houghton, shows Nelson Mandela holding an advanced copy of his new book "Nelson Mandela by Himself".

SOUTH AFRICA - (AFP)- Nelson Mandela returned to his childhood village ahead of his 93rd birthday Monday as South Africa and the world prepared to honour the most celebrated living statesman on the planet.

For the third year, at the request of his charitable founda-

tion, July 18 will be observed as Mandela Day, recognised by the United Nations as a global call to volunteer for good causes for 67 minutes -- representing each year of Mandela's life in active politics.

"It is hard to sum up Mandela's achievements and contribution to the country's

struggle for freedom," said Shadrack Gutto, of the Centre for African Renaissance Studies at the University of South Africa.

The ailing former president arrived at his childhood village of Qunu in the Eastern Cape on Thursday in a military medical aircraft.

His trip was done discreetly, the public and journalists were kept away.

It was unclear where Mandela would spend his birthday as his foundation refused to comment on his plans.

However he is expected to celebrate it with his family, which he has rarely left since a health scare in January when he was hospitalised for an acute respiratory infection.

It's a far cry from the fanfare that once greeted his birthday.

This year, 93 children from around the country are invited to his foundation on Monday, but they aren't expected to meet the man most South Africans know as Madiba, his clan name.

All the nation's 12.4 million school children will erupt in song in a special "Happy Birthday" rendition with an African twist, penned by a local composer.

Companies, charities and celebrities have all announced plans for the day.

As South Africa's first black president, Mandela is revered for ushering in democracy and for his personal sacrifices in fighting the white-minority apartheid regime that jailed him for 27 years.

Two in court over 'Joss Stone plot'



Joss Stone has sold more than 11 million albums worldwide

LONDON (AFP) — Two men are due to appear in court on in connection with an alleged plot targeting soul singer Joss Stone.

Junior Bradshaw, 30, and Kevin Liverpool, 33, both from St Stephen's Close, Manchester, will appear for a preliminary hearing at Exeter Crown Court.

They have both been charged with conspiracy to commit robbery and conspiracy to commit grievous bodily harm.

The pair were arrested in the Devon town of Cullompton on June 16, near Stone's home.

Grammy-winner Stone, 24, has sold more than 11 million albums worldwide, with her 2003 debut "The Soul Sessions" and its follow-up "Mind Body and Soul" going platinum in Britain, the United States and Europe.

The singer, who was recently cast as a Bond girl in a James Bond video game, is estimated to have a personal fortune of £9 million, according to a list of Britain's wealthiest people published by The Sunday Times newspaper.

ton on June 16, near Stone's home.



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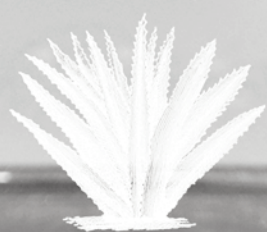
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Phelps has 'nothing to prove' says Popov

SHANGHAI (AFP) - Russian swimming legend Alexander Popov insisted Thursday that Michael Phelps had nothing left to prove as the US star looks to put a drop in form behind him at the Shanghai world championships.

Phelps, the biggest name in swimming, returns to China for the worlds after his devastating showing in Beijing in 2008, where he won eight gold medals, taking his overall Olympic tally to an astonishing 14 golds.

But sprint king Popov, who himself has four gold medals after a 50m/100m freestyle double at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 and at the Atlanta Games in 1996, said Phelps's standing as one of the all-time greats was secure.

"Does he really need to do that?" Popov said, when asked if Phelps could repeat his Beijing success.

"Michael, I think for him the biggest part is enjoyment. He can swim backwards, he can swim upwards, downwards, he will still be Phelps.

"So for us we shouldn't even be asking this question,

whether he will be as good as he was. He still is, he still will be for many, many years, so Michael is Michael. He is up there. We are down here."

Phelps, who won five gold medals at the 2009 Rome world championships, has turned in some poor results this year including a 400m individual medley loss to team-mate Ryan Lochte.

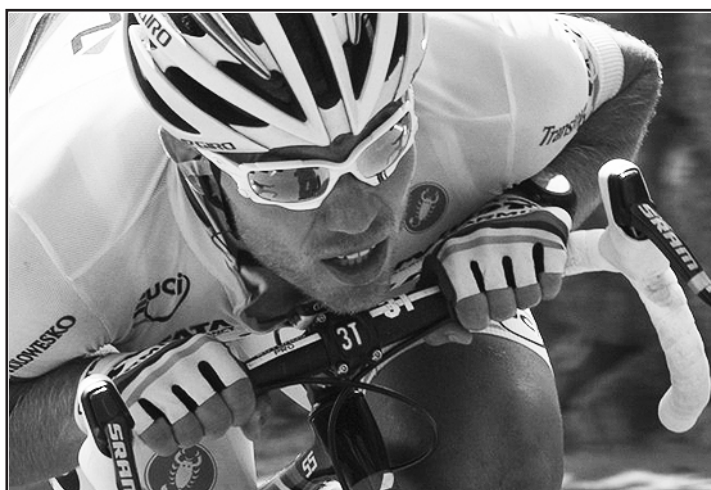
More significantly, Phelps has been beaten in his favourite event, the 200m butterfly, three times this year -- twice to China's Wu Peng and once to Australian Nick D'Arcy -- ending a nine-year winning streak.

Popov said he was looking forward to seeing the powerful Chinese team perform in front of home crowds, and that he had heard good things about emerging star Sun Yang, 19.

Popov, in Shanghai with the bid team from Kazan, who Friday were awarded the 2015 world championships by governing body FINA, said the win was a big boost for Russia and Russian swimming.

The 14th FINA world championships start on Saturday.

Hushovd stuns Roy as Voeckler keeps yellow jersey



LOURDES (AFP) - Norwegian Thor Hushovd of Garmin-Cervelo continued his dream Tour de France with victory in the 13th stage from Pau to Lourdes on Friday.

Frenchman Thomas Voeckler, of Europcar, retained the race leader's yellow jersey after arriving with the main peloton and all the favourites seven and a half minutes later.

On the second of three consecutive days in the Pyrenees there were no changes to the overall standings.

Luxembourg's Frank Schleck is second overall at 1min 49sec, Cadel Evans of

Australia is third at 2:06 and Andy Schleck is fourth at 2:17.

Spain's three-time and defending champion Alberto Contador is still seventh at four minutes, just behind Italian Ivan Basso in fifth and sixth-placed compatriot Damiano Cunego.

Hushovd, who wore the race leader's yellow jersey for a week, now has nine individual stage wins on the race and becomes the first rider since Spain's Oscar Freire to win a stage as reigning world champion.

Having helped Garmin win the team time trial on

stage two, Hushovd secured some personal glory by following up a brave climbing display with a daring descent which allowed him to catch Frenchman Jeremy Roy with 2km to race.

"I felt really emotional coming over the finish line because I didn't imagine I could attack and climb over the Aubisque and then win on my own with the rainbow jersey," said Hushovd.

"It's the most beautiful stage I've won on the Tour de France, for sure."

FDJ rider Roy had come over the summit of the day's only major climb, the Col d'Aubisque, with a 50sec lead on compatriot David Moncoutie and a two-minute lead on Hushovd.

Moncoutie, a strong climber known for his fear of descending, was soon reeled in and despite Hushovd's stronger finish on the flat the pair collaborated in a bid to close the gap.

Criticised for helping Hushovd catch Roy, Moncoutie hit back: "I don't agree. There were still a lot of kilometres to race and it's a stage victory on the Tour de France that's at stake."

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Clarke, Glover lead British Open as McIlroy advances



Darren Clarke

SANDWICH (AFP) - Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke and Lucas Glover of the United States took a one-shot second round lead at the British Open on Friday as a slew of star names were sent packing.

Clarke carded a two-under-par 68 for the second day running to move to four under at the halfway stage, while 2009 US Open champion Glover shot a solid level par 70 for a 36-hole aggregate of 136.

Bright sunshine and a light breeze invited low scores on the Royal St George's layout, yet the benign conditions did not prevent several heavy-weights including world number one Luke Donald from missing the cut.

Clarke's round was a roller-coaster with an eagle and five birdies offset by a double-bogey and three bogeys but the 42-year-old Ulsterman was bullish about his prospects heading into the weekend, where poor weather has been forecast.

"There's an awful long way to go yet, and I believe the forecast for the weekend is very, very poor, which I quite look forward to," Clarke said.

A win for Clarke would be hugely popular for a player who had three top 10 finishes in the Open in a five-year spell from 1997, including a tie for second place at Troon in 1997 and a tie for third place at Royal Lytham in 2001.

Since then his fortunes have waxed and waned, and he will be forever remembered for his heroic performances in the 2006 Ryder Cup shortly after the death from cancer of his wife Heather.

But Clarke and Glover will be looking nervously over their shoulders at a large cluster of challengers who are within a few shots of the lead. Only seven strokes separate a congested field heading into the final two rounds.

The chasing pack includes Germany's US PGA champion and world No.3 Martin Kaymer, one of four players just a shot off the pace at three under.

Tournament favourite Rory McIlroy meanwhile remains in contention, bunched with 12 players in the clubhouse at level par, four off the lead.

The 22-year-old US Open champion, who had started the day one over, posted a one-under-par 69 after a round which included four birdies and three bogeys. "It would have been nicer to be a couple better, but I'll take that going into the weekend," McIlroy said. "I'm very happy with my position and within striking distance of the leaders."

English amateur Tom Lewis, who had led overnight after a record-breaking five-under-par round in the first round, meanwhile slipped down the board after a four-over-par 74 which left him at one under.

USA coach 'feelin' groovy' as Japan final looms

Continued from pg 16

The Americans have already beaten Japan three times this year, once at the Algarve Cup in March and twice in pre-World Cup friendlies.

Sundhage, who is not shy about singing to her players, blended Simon and Garfunkel's hit 'Feelin' Groovy' into Friday's press conference as she told how she is trying to keep her players relaxed ahead of the Frankfurt final.

"You know, this life is about competition, there is a lot of pressure, a lot of stress," said the 51-year-old from Sweden.

"Of course, the players feel the same thing and while it's exciting, they have to do this, they have to do that."

"So I tell them, slow down you move too fast, you gotta



Pia Sundhage

make the morning last, kicking down the cobbled stones looking for fun and feelin' groovy."

Having beaten France 3-1 in Wednesday's semi-final in Moenchengladbach, Sundhage says regeneration is important as her team get ready to take on all-action Japan.

"We need to get our legs back, we played a phenomenal game against Brazil, extra time, one man down and then

a lot of defending against France," she said.

"We have talked about defending and keeping possession is the best method of defence and to not rush in."

With recent wins over Japan already under their belt, Sundhage says the wins have helped, but will count for little come Sunday.

"It gives us confidence, it means we are capable of winning against a technical team," she said.

"Now is a World Cup final, it means a little bit, but we need to bring out our best performance, we can't rely on what happened a few months ago unless you use it to take some confidence."

"We need to be on our toes and be on our game."

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Argentina look to Messi to quell Uruguay threat



BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Argentina and Uruguay will renew their historic rivalry when they clash in today's Copa America quarter-finals with all eyes on potential match-winners Lionel Messi and Diego Forlan.

Uruguay won the first Copa America in 1916 and kept their momentum going through to the first World Cup, which they lifted in 1930.

With that inaugural Copa success coming on Argentinian soil, the home side will not be taking Forlan and company lightly on Saturday at Santa Fe.

Historians of the world's oldest surviving international tournament also will point out that for the first six of

Uruguay's 14 continental successes they beat Argentina, who also have 14 crowns, in the final.

It took until 1927 before the boot was on the other foot.

The Argentinians have won six Copas in eight hostings of the event - but on the other two occasions it was the Uruguayans who proved too strong, including in 1987, when even Diego Maradona could not prevent defeat as the then world champions finished fourth.

Argentina have famously won nothing at senior level since the 1993 Copa while Uruguay won the 1995 event and then trailed off until they reached last summer's World Cup semi-finals.

The pair's head-to-head record reads 13-13 but both are looking to their star men, Messi for the hosts, and Forlan for the Uruguayans, to turn the tide their way this time.

"This match will generate interest around the world," predicted Uruguay striker Sebastian Abreu.

Veteran Abreu says the task is to shackle Messi, although he admits he loves watching the Barcelona man play.

"You have to enjoy watching Messi - we're going up against the best player in the world."

Argentina coach Sergio Batista, who hopes Messi will show his club form, as he did against Costa Rica, may opt to take Gonzalo Higuain out of the starting line-up on Saturday.

Batista is believed to be pondering adding Esteban Cambiasso or else Lucas Biglia and taking out Real Madrid striker Higuain, who missed several chances against Costa Rica, in what would be a slightly more cautious line-up than the one which flattened the less wily Ticos.

COPA QUARTER-FINALS

Sat - Jul 16

3 p.m.

Colombia vs. Peru

6:15 p.m.

Argentina vs. Uruguay

Sun - Jul 17

3 p.m.

Brazil vs. Paraguay

6:15 p.m.

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USA coach 'feelin' groovy' as Japan final looms

FRANKFURT (AFP) - USA coach Pia Sundhage was in a relaxed frame of mind, despite her side bidding for a third World Cup title in two days' time, as she serenaded the media on Friday.

The Stars and Stripes are

gunning for a third world crown, having never lost to Japan in 25 meetings since 1986 with 22 wins and three draws.

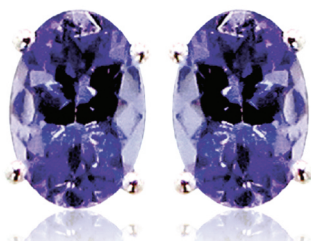
The USA showed their fighting spirit to equalise against Brazil in the 122nd

minute of their quarter-final, then held their nerve to beat the south Americans 5-3 in the penalty shoot-out, before beating France in the semi-final.

Continue on pg 15

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